



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage	Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property Crops	

ILLINOIS, South

ILZ075>080>087-091 **Jefferson - Perry - Franklin - Hamilton - White - Jackson - Williamson - Saline - Gallatin - Hardin**
10 **0600CST** **0** **0** **Heavy Snow**
1100CST

A very unusual April snowstorm affected a small part of southern Illinois. The narrow path of snow extended from the Mt. Vernon and Carbondale areas to around Shawneetown on the Ohio River. The highest snowfall total was 6 inches in Willisville. About five inches of snow fell at Du Quoin, and three to four inches fell at Harrisburg, Herrin, and Zeigler. The Marion and Carbondale areas received 1 to 3 inches. The wet, slushy snow accumulated mostly on grassy areas. There was enough on the roads to cause some accidents. The state police district headquarters at Du Quoin reported 17 traffic wrecks. A head-on collision along Route 37 near West Frankfort injured two persons. Another head-on collision along U.S. 51 near Du Quoin injured 3 persons. The snow melted rather quickly as temperatures rose into the 40s later in the day.

ILZ075>078-080>094 **Jefferson - Wayne - Edwards - Wabash - Perry - Franklin - Hamilton - White - Jackson - Williamson - Saline - Gallatin - Union - Johnson - Pope - Hardin - Alexander - Pulaski - Massac**
18 **0300CST** **0** **0** **Frost**
0700CST

An unseasonably cold April caused problems for growers, especially fruit growers. The peach crop was especially vulnerable because above normal temperatures in March caused peach trees to blossom early. Lows on April 18 were in the upper 20s in some of the colder valleys. A fruit grower in Union County estimated nearly half of his peach crop was destroyed by cold temperatures.

Union County
Anna **20** **2223CST** **0** **0** **5K** **Thunderstorm Wind**
Trees and power lines were blown down.

Johnson County
Vienna **20** **2233CST** **0** **0** **Thunderstorm Wind (52)**
A wind gust to 60 MPH was estimated by the county sheriff department.

Alexander County
Sandusky **20** **2235CST** **0** **0** **Thunderstorm Wind (53)**
The county sheriff department reported trees down.

Hardin County
Rosiclare **20** **2240CST** **0** **0** **Hail(0.75)**
In addition to the hail, winds gusted to around 50 MPH.

Pulaski County
Karnak **20** **2250CST** **0** **0** **Thunderstorm Wind (50)**
Power lines were down.

Pope County
Golconda **20** **2250CST** **0** **0** **Thunderstorm Wind (50)**
Wind gusts were estimated near 58 MPH at the sheriff department.

Massac County
1 N Metropolis **20** **2258CST** **0** **0** **3K** **Thunderstorm Wind**
Power lines were down.

ILZ075>078-080>094 **Jefferson - Wayne - Edwards - Wabash - Perry - Franklin - Hamilton - White - Jackson - Williamson - Saline - Gallatin - Union - Johnson - Pope - Hardin - Alexander - Pulaski - Massac**
30 **1300CST** **0** **0** **20K** **High Wind (52)**
1800CST

Strong southwest winds, not related to thunderstorms, gusted between 50 and 60 MPH during the late afternoon. Scattered reports of downed trees and power lines were received. Large sections of Murphysboro were without power, as were parts of Marion, Carbondale, Anna, and Harrisburg.



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					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

ILLINOIS, South

Wayne County

Fairfield	30	1545CST			0	0	15K		Thunderstorm Wind
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A roof was blown off, and power lines were down.

Gallatin County

4 NW Shawneetown	30	1810CST			0	0	4K		Thunderstorm Wind
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A power pole was snapped between Shawneetown and Ridgeway. Large limbs were down countywide

INDIANA, Southwest

INZ081>082-085>088

Gibson - Pike - Posey - Vanderburgh - Warrick - Spencer

18	0300CST	0700CST			0	0			Frost
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An unseasonably cold April caused problems for some growers, especially fruit growers. The peach crop was especially vulnerable because mild temperatures in March resulted in early blossoms. The low on April 18 was 30 degrees at Evansville

INZ081>082-085>088

Gibson - Pike - Posey - Vanderburgh - Warrick - Spencer

30	1300CST	1800CST			0	0	5K		High Wind (52)
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Strong southwest winds, not related to thunderstorms, gusted between 50 and 60 MPH on hilltops and southwest-facing exposures. At the Evansville Airport, the highest gust was near 45 MPH during the late afternoon. Power lines were blown down near Petersburg in Pike County around 4 P.M.

Posey County

Mt Vernon	30	1826CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (50)
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Power lines were down.

Vanderburgh County

Evansville	30	1840CST			0	0	4K		Thunderstorm Wind
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Trees and power lines were down on the west side of Evansville

Warrick County

Newburgh	30	1900CST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
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KENTUCKY, Southwest

KYZ014>015

Union - Webster

10	0700CST	1100CST			0	0			Heavy Snow
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An unusual April snowstorm affected a small part of northwest Kentucky, primarily Union and Webster Counties. A slushy accumulation of 1 to 3 inches fell, mostly on grassy areas.

KYZ001>022

Fulton - Hickman - Carlisle - Ballard - Mcracken - Graves - Livingston - Marshall - Calloway - Crittenden - Lyon - Trigg - Caldwell - Union - Webster - Hopkins - Christian - Henderson - Daviess - Mclean - Muhlenberg - Todd

18	0300CST	0700CST			0	0			Frost
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An unseasonably late freeze caused some agricultural losses. The peach crop was especially vulnerable because unusually mild temperatures in March resulted in early blossoms. The low for the 18th was 30 degrees at Paducah. The month of April on the whole was quite chilly, averaging 5 degrees below normal.

Ballard County

3 W Lovelaceville	20	2250CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (52)
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Trees were down.



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Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Killed	Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Crops	Character of Storm
<u>KENTUCKY, Southwest</u>									
Mccracken County									
(Pah)Barkley Arpt Pa	20	2255CST			0	0	3K		Thunderstorm Wind (55)
The automated surface observing system at Barkley Regional Airport measured a wind gust to 63 MPH. A house chimney and mobile home were damaged near the airport.									
Fulton County									
Fulton	20	2329CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (52)
Trees were down.									
Graves County									
Mayfield	20	2335CST			0	0	15K		Thunderstorm Wind
Windows were blown out of a downtown business. A vehicle was damaged by a downed tree.									
Marshall County									
Hardin	20	2350CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (52)
A spotter estimated gusts to 60 MPH.									
Graves County									
Farmington	21	0001CST			0	0	20K		Thunderstorm Wind
A mobile home was severely damaged.									
Calloway County									
Coldwater	21	0009CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (52)
The sheriff department reported trees down.									
Christian County									
Gracey to Oak Grove	21	0100CST			0	0	80K		Thunderstorm Wind
Two trailers were overturned by high winds, one near Gracey and another near Oak Grove. A front porch was ripped off. Tin roofs were damaged.									
Fulton County									
Cayce	21	0315CST			0	0			Hail(1.00)
KYZ001>022									
Fulton - Hickman - Carlisle - Ballard - Mccracken - Graves - Livingston - Marshall - Calloway - Crittenden - Lyon - Trigg - Caldwell - Union - Webster - Hopkins - Christian - Henderson - Daviess - Mclean - Muhlenberg - Todd									
	30	1300CST 1800CST			0	3	50K		High Wind (52)
Strong southwest winds, not related to thunderstorms, gusted above 50 MPH. Peak wind gusts during the late afternoon reached 60 MPH on hilltops and southwest-facing exposures. The wind contributed to the collapse of a building under construction in Powderly, which is in Muhlenberg County about 30 miles northeast of Hopkinsville. Three people were injured in the building collapse, which occurred around 3 P.M. The roof was peeled back from a mobile home in Henderson County. Two traffic lights were blown down in Henderson. A canvas bubble installed over the Henderson County YMCA tennis courts was ripped. An employee was injured while attempting to save the bubble. At the weather office in Paducah, the highest gust was about 45 MPH.									
Carlisle County									
3 W Bardwell to Cunningham	30	1715CST 1730CST			0	0	25K		Hail(1.75)
Hail ranged from 1 to 2 inches in diameter. Golf ball size hail lasted 10 to 15 minutes at Cunningham.									
Carlisle County									
3 W Bardwell to Cunningham	30	1717CST 1730CST			0	0	150K		Thunderstorm Wind (57)
A severe thunderstorm moved from west to east across Carlisle County, producing wind damage and large hail from west of Bardwell to Cunningham. Trees were blown down in Bardwell and Cunningham by winds estimated between 70 and 75 MPH. Two homes in Bardwell and two homes in Cunningham received extensive damage. Several other homes had minor damage. Many power lines were down. A camper, storage shed, and barn were damaged.									



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<u>KENTUCKY, Southwest</u>									
Mccracken County									
Melber	30	1745CST			0	0	6K		Thunderstorm Wind
			Trees were blown down, and a trailer home was unroofed.						
Mccracken County									
2 SE Paducah	30	1747CST			0	0			Hail(1.75)
Graves County									
Lowes	30	1750CST			0	0	3K		Thunderstorm Wind (50)
			Power lines were down.						
Livingston County									
2 N Grand Rivers	30	1800CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (52)
			Two large trees were blown across a county road.						
Mccracken County									
Reidland	30	1820CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (57)
			A wind gust to 65 MPH was reported by an off-duty meteorologist						
Marshall County									
Calvert City	30	1828CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (57)
			A gust to 65 MPH was reported by the rescue squad.						
Mccracken County									
Reidland	30	1830CST 1845CST			0	0			Flash Flood
			Very heavy rains caused extensive street flooding. Some streets were briefly impassable						
Graves County									
Wingo	30	1830CST			0	2			Lightning
			A man and woman were struck by lightning as they sat on their front porch. The man received second degree burns on his left leg. The hair on his leg was singed, as were his pants. The woman sustained lesser injuries and declined treatment.						
Fulton County									
Hickman	30	1850CST			0	0	10K		Thunderstorm Wind
			Trees were down. One tree fell on top of a house in Hickman.						
Graves County									
2 E Water Vly	30	1915CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (52)
			Several trees were down between Pilot Oak and Water Valley.						
Calloway County									
1 E Hazel to New Concord	30	1945CST 1950CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (55)
			Large trees were blown down in the southeastern part of the county.						
Calloway County									
Hazel to New Concord	30	1945CST 1950CST			0	0	10K		Hail(1.00)
			Hail of varying sizes occurred in the southeast part of the county. The hail was large enough to damage vehicles, but no exact size was given.						
Christian County									
Oak Grove	30	2033CST			0	0			Hail(1.00)
			A Fort Campbell weather spotter observed 1 inch hail and gusts to 60 MPH.						



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MISSOURI, Southeast

MOZ076-086>087-100-107>112-114 **Perry - Bollinger - Cape Girardeau - Wayne - Carter - Ripley - Butler - Stoddard - Scott - Mississippi - New Madrid**

**18 0300CST
0700CST 0 0 Frost**

An unseasonably cold April caused problems for some growers, especially fruit growers. The peach crop was especially vulnerable because mild temperatures in March resulted in early blossoms. Lows on April 18 were near 30 degrees. One orchard owner near Jackson in Cape Girardeau County called in two helicopters to fly over his orchard all night. The helicopters flew slowly through a warm layer of air 100 feet above the orchards, forcing the air down onto 23,000 apple trees. The effort was deemed a success by the orchard owner.

**Cape Girardeau County
(Cgi)Cape Girardeau**

20 2157CST 0 0 Thunderstorm Wind (60)

The automated surface observing system at Cape Girardeau Regional Airport measured a gust to 69 MPH.

**Butler County
Poplar Bluff**

20 2215CST 0 0 20K Thunderstorm Wind

Windows were broken and some roofs were damaged. Numerous trees were blown down.

**Stoddard County
1 N Dexter**

20 2245CST 0 0 10K Thunderstorm Wind

The roof was partially blown off a building housing a church and furniture store. Numerous tree limbs were down

**Mississippi County
Charleston to
East Prairie**

20 2250CST 0 0 2K Thunderstorm Wind

Power lines were down in Charleston. A couple trees were down in East Prairie.

**New Madrid County
New Madrid to
Portageville**

20 2250CST 0 0 25K Thunderstorm Wind (62)

Roofs were damaged, power poles were snapped, and numerous trees were down in New Madrid. The plate glass window of a furniture store was broken in New Madrid. Most of New Madrid was without power following the storm. Power was out for over 24 hours in some places. Tree limbs and one whole tree were blown down in Portageville.

MOZ076-086>087-100-107>112-114 **Perry - Bollinger - Cape Girardeau - Wayne - Carter - Ripley - Butler - Stoddard - Scott - Mississippi - New Madrid**

**30 1300CST
1700CST 0 0 High Wind (52)**

Strong southwest winds, not related to thunderstorms, gusted between 50 and 60 MPH on hilltops and southwest-facing exposures. No major problems were reported.

**Mississippi County
1 W Anniston to
5 E Anniston**

**30 1707CST
1714CST 0 0 200K Thunderstorm Wind (65)**

A thunderstorm became severe over western Mississippi County, and then moved over the Anniston area. Extensive damage was done to buildings and a small airport along Highway 105 near Anniston. An ambulance shelter in Anniston was damaged. A chemical storage building had four overhead doors blown out. Two offices in the main building were partially destroyed. A radio tower was broken. The roof of an airplane hangar buckled. An aircraft valued at 80,000 dollars which was inside the hangar was destroyed. A second airplane outside the hangar was heavily damaged when the wind blew it over. A large tree blocked the road between Anniston and Highway 105. Power was out for several hours in parts of East Prairie and Anniston. Wind speeds were clocked at 73 MPH at the airport.